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S. C. Public Service Commission
Annual Accountability Report 1994-95



Public Service Commission of South Carolina

Annual Accountability Report

1994-1995

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STATE DOCUMENTS

Program - Utility Regulation**Program Goal:**

To fix just and reasonable rates, standards, classifications, regulations, practices and measurements of service to be furnished, imposed or observed and followed by regulated utilities. To perform compliance audits of the regulated companies' books and records to insure that the proper rates and charges are used and to insure that regulated companies comply with the Commission's rules and regulations.

Program Objectives:

To regulate and supervise the rates and services of investor-owned electric utilities; investor-owned gas, water and wastewater companies; and all telephone companies in the state.

Performance Measures:Workload Indicators:

Electric	
4	Companies rated and reviewed
68	Compliance audits statewide

Gas	
4	Companies rates and reviewed
19	Compliance audits statewide

Telecommunications	
27	Local exchange companies rated and serviced
185	Interexchange carriers
1,080	Coin operated customer-owned telephones
27	Compliance audits statewide

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Water and Wastewater	
85	Water and wastewater companies rated and serviced
50	Compliance audits statewide

Accounting	
4	Electric company audits
4	Gas company audits
20	Telephone company audits
25	Water and wastewater company audits

Consumer Services	
All complaints and consumer inquiries concerning the utility companies regulated by the Commission will be satisfactorily addressed in accordance with the Commission's guidelines. The number of these complaints and inquiries vary each year as a function of State and Federal regulatory changes, weather, social and economic conditions and other factors.	

Efficiency Measures:

Electric	
11	Hearings held
82	Orders issued
8	Compliance audits completed

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Gas	
5	Hearings held
42	Orders issued
374	Compliance audits completed

Telecommunications	
81	Hearings held
392	Orders issued
388	Compliance audits completed

Water and Wastewater	
19	Hearings held
133	Orders issued
118	Compliance audits completed

Accounting	
57	Audits performed for the Commission to review

Consumer Services	
2,067	Inquiries and complaints against utility companies processed
34	On-site inspections completed to investigate complaints and/or inquiries

Outcomes:

The Utilities Division found 435 situations of non-compliance of the Commission's rules and regulations during on-site inspections and required the companies to correct these violations.

Program - Transportation Regulation**Program Goal:**

To minimize the unauthorized "for hire" use of motor vehicles on the public highways of this state and assure a safe rail system for the same. To assist all "for hire" motor carriers in bringing their companies into compliance with the laws regulating the hauling "for hire" of passengers, commodities, hazardous waste or any other item or article which falls under the purview of this Commission's authority.

Program Objectives:

To provide the state with a well-regulated and safe transportation system which can provide all needed transportation services at a reasonable cost and operate within the motor vehicle laws and the rules and regulations of this Commission.

Performance Measures:Workload Indicators:*Enforcement*

- Authorized positions for law enforcement officers
- Inspections of vehicles per month
- Supervisors are given a goal of 2 inspections per work day

Licensing

- Issues certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity to intrastate motor carriers after proving that they are fit, willing and able as determined by the Commission.

Registration

- Issues receipts of insurance to interstate carriers in cooperation with other states, to regulate those vehicles which transit our state.

Rails and Rail Safety

- Provides inspections for all rails within the state and inspections of the rail cars providing service within and through the state under an agreement with the Federal Railway Administration.

Efficiency Measures:

Enforcement	
1,035	Citations were issued with assessed fines of \$106,836.

Licensing	
2,772	Certificates of public convenience and necessity and certificates of compliance processed
18,558	License decals issued for commercial vehicles operating in this state, producing \$1,351,535 in revenue

Registration	
498,756	Stamps issued to interstate carriers to raise \$2,493,784 in revenue

Accounting	
72	Audits performed for financial and tariffs
47	Complaint audits

Rail and Rail Safety	
2,946	Miles of rail were inspected, resulting in 342 deficiencies noted
9,498	Inspections made on rolling stock resulting in 1,130 defects found

Outcomes:

During 1994-1995, less citations were issued by enforcement officers as a result of the effectiveness of the Transportation Division in reducing the number of "for hire" vehicles in operation without full compliance. The Rail Safety Department increased the miles of track inspected and noted fewer deficiencies.

Note: The goals and objectives set and achieved by the Transportation Division of the Public Service Commission for 1994-1995 will change for 1995-1996 due to the transfer of duties and personnel to the Department of Revenue and the Department of Public Safety as a part of state reorganization. Goals and objectives applicable to the Commission's revised regulations of transportation matters are being developed and will be implemented.